

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ABU DH 02990 250534Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 ERDA-05 SS-15 AID-05 CEA-01  
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07  
INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-06  
OES-07 SP-02 STR-05 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 FEA-01 PA-01  
PRS-01 IO-13 /131 W  
-----120349 250544Z /17

R 241045Z OCT 77  
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6802  
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DOHA  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY MANAMA  
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
USINT BAGHDAD  
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVAV  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY TUNIS  
AMEMBASSY RABAT  
AMEMBASSY SANA  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 2990

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: ENRG, MILI  
SUBJECT: SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S REMARKS

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PAGE 02 ABU DH 02990 250534Z

REF: STATE 254540 AND 254542

1. ARRIVAL OF DEPARTMENT'S PRESS GUIDANCE ON  
SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S OCT 19 REMARKS WELL  
TIMED. ON OCT 22 UAE DAILIES AL-ITTIHAD AND  
WAHDAH HAD BOTH CARRIED ON THEIR FRONT PAGES  
REPORTS FROM KUWAIT ABOUT GOK OFFICIALS RE-

JECTION OF "AMERICAN PROTECTION" OVER OIL RESOURCES. AL-ITTIHAD FURTHER REPUBLISHED EXCERPTS FROM WEEK-OLD INTERVIEW GIVEN BY UAE PRESIDENT SHAIKH ZAYID TO KUWAITI NEWSPAPER AS-SIYASA (REPORTED IN ABU DHABI'S A-65) IN WHICH HE HAD SAID THAT PRESENCE OF SUPER POWERS IN GULF REGION ACCEPTABLE ONLY IF THEIR INTERESTS COINCIDE WITH THOSE OF REGIONAL STATES. PETROLEUM MINISTER UTAYBA ALSO QUOTED AS STATING ONLY OWNERS OF OIL RESOURCES HAVE RIGHT TO PROTECT THEM..

2. PRESS ADDED THAT US AMBASSADORS TO GULF STATES WERE TO BE CALLED IN AND ASKED TO PROVIDE CLARIFICATION OF SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S REMARKS. FACT THAT AMBASSADOR HAD MET OCT 22 WITH MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS SAIF GHUBBASH PROMPTED PRESS QUERIES THAT EVENING TO EMBOFFS AND TO GHUBBASH HIMSELF AS TO WHETHER MEETING HAD BEEN CONCERNED WITH THOSE "CLARIFICATION". WE SAID IT HAD NOT AND PLED IGNORANCE OF ALLEGED SCHLESINGER'S REMARKS, AS DID GHUBBASH.

3. REFTELS WERE RECEIVED OCT 23 JUST AS AMBASSADOR WAS DEPARTING FOR FONMIN SUWAIDI'S LUNCHEON FOR VISITING AFGHAN FONMIN. DURING LUNCHEON AMBASSADOR HAD OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN TO BOTH SUWAIDI AND TO CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 ABU DH 02990 250534Z

SAIF GHUBBASH WHAT IT WAS SECRETARY HAD ACTUALLY SAID AND TO MAKE ADDITIONAL POINTS PROVIDED BY DEPARTMENT. BOTH UAE OFFICIALS EXPRESSED EMBARRASSMENT AND IRRITATION WITH LOCAL PRESS FOR SEIZING UPON AND REPUBLISHING SENSATIONALIST STORIES FROM KUWAIT PRESS WITHOUT FIRST CHECKING THEIR ACCURACY. SAIF GHUBBASH READILY GRASPED CONTEXT IN WHICH SECRETARY'S REMARKS WERE MADE, NOTING THAT SECRETARY WAS OBVIOUSLY ADDRESSING HIMSELF TO STRATEGIC BALANCE BETWEEN US AND SOVIET FORCES IN WORLD. AMBASSADOR OFFERED TO SEND BOTH OFFICIALS FULL TEXT OF SCHLESINGER REMARKS WHEN RECEIVED.

4. COMMENT: MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIALS ARE RELAXED ABOUT SCHLESINGER REMARKS AND EVIDENTLY ARE INCLINED TO REGARD WHOLE AFFAIR AS TEMPEST IN A TEA POT. THEY BLAME KUWAITI PRESS RATHER THAN SECRETARY SCHLESINGER FOR THE COMMOTION. DICKMAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, ENERGY, NATURAL RESOURCES, PETROLEUM, SPEECHES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** ENRG, MILI, SOPN, (SCHLESINGER, JAMES)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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